

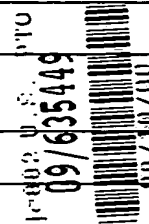
|                              |                                                            |                             |            |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| FORM PTO-1449<br>(REV. 7-80) | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>NIP-189 | SERIAL NO. |
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K. YAMAASHI et al

FILING DATE  
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| * EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>(If Appropriate) |
|-----------------------|----------|------|------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| AA                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AB                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AC                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AD                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AE                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AF                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AG                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AH                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AI                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AJ                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| AK                    |          |      |      |       |          |                                 |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|    | DOCUMENT  | DATE     | COUNTRY  | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION              |                                     |
|----|-----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|    |           |          |          |       |          | YES                      | NO                                  |
| AL | 8-87234   | 04/02/96 | Japanese | -     | -        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| AM | 8-195690  | 07/30/96 | Japanese | -     | -        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| AN | 10-153440 | 06/09/98 | Japanese | -     | -        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| AO |           |          |          |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| AP |           |          |          |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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| EXAMINER<br><b>ELISEO RAMOS-FELICIANO</b><br>PATENT EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED<br>Nov - 14 - 2002 |
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